

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Digital Broadcast Content Protection)	MB Docket No. 02-230
)	
)	

To: The Commission

Request for Extension of Time to File Oppositions

Public Knowledge (PK) and Consumers Union (CU) hereby request a thirty (30) day extension of time to file oppositions to the recent petitions for reconsideration in the *Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC No. 02-231 (November 4, 2003) ("*FNPRM*") in the above referenced docket. As discussed below, there is good cause for the Commission to grant such an extension.

PK and CU have been leading representatives for the public interest/consumer communities on many of the issues raised both in the petitions for reconsideration and in the *FNPRM* itself. As such, these groups have been assessing the extent that valid arguments have been raised by the petitions for reconsideration (oppositions to which are currently due Feb. 9) at the same time they have been reviewing and preparing comments for the issues raised by the *FNPRM* (comments to which are due Feb. 13). The technical and policy questions raised by both (a) the petitions for reconsideration and (b) the *FNPRM* itself are complex, and both (a) and (b) deserve a full analysis from a consumer and technological standpoint. PK and CU have spent, and are continuing to spend, a great deal of time consulting with computer scientists and other technical experts. The

modest extension of time requested will allow PK and CU to fully develop their analyses of both sets of issues in the broadcast-flag docket item (as well as issues in the related “plug-and-play” proceeding, comments to which are also due Feb. 13). This will benefit the public interest by ensuring that the Commission has a complete record before it on the consumer and technological impacts of the broadcast flag.

Wherefore, PK and CU request that the Commission extend the time for filing oppositions to the petitions for reconsideration in the above referenced docket to March 9, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Godwin
Gigi B. Sohn
Public Knowledge
1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 650
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 518-0020

Christopher Murray
Consumers Union
1666 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20009

January 30, 2004

Counsel for PK and CU